

To: Community Representatives  
From: John T. Burklow, Acting Director  
Office of Community Liaison  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
Date: November/December 2005

## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

Frequently, we use this column to report on progress made or problems that have arisen. These are always issues of great importance to you, our neighbors. I want to use this month's column for a different purpose—to draw your attention to the many benefits available to the communities surrounding the NIH campus because of its presence here.

Any discussion of the NIH must start with our vital mission to fund and perform biomedical research for the better understanding of human disease processes and the search for better ways to treat and prevent diseases. Each month, the *OCL Update* reports on NIH-funded research projects. Each has found a fresh way to look at the biology that underlies malfunction or an approach that could be a new, more effective treatment or method of prevention.



John T. Burklow

The 2015 National Cancer Institute (NCI) Challenge Goal to end the death and suffering due to cancer by 2015 gives us hope. The presentations by last year's NIH Director's Pioneer Award recipients as they outlined their first-year research results were full of promise. But all that the NIH does must ultimately come down to the joy a child's parents feel when they can take her home from the NIH Clinical Center after she has recovered from the childhood malignancy that nearly claimed her. The NIH stands as a resource not only to the Nation, but also to the world for the alleviation of human suffering due to disease.

Of course in the day-to-day world, all this good activity might just mean traffic, noise and parking woes. What's in it for the surrounding communities? If medicine is our number one product here at NIH, education must be number two. Consequently, a wide range of lectures, seminars and courses are available on campus. Many of these are free and open to the public, and you are most cordially invited to enjoy them with us.

*The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series*, for example, features world-class scientists on a variety of topics. Other series are designed to take an important and timely subject and make it more generally accessible. *The Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series*, sponsored by the NIH Work/Life Center, focuses specifically on the problems of daily life, rather than on medicine or research. We highlight many of these activities in each month's NIH Calendar of Events. We urge you to take advantage of the opportunities they offer.

One of the great resources on the NIH campus is the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Not only is its collection of biomedical books and journals nearly unrivaled, but the NLM sponsors ongoing studies in the history of medicine and in medical research at NIH. The NLM recently added the papers of two Nobel laureates to its *Profiles in Science* Web site. Another popular NLM exhibition is *Changing the Face of Medicine*,

(continued on page 2)

The Community Liaison Council will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, December 15, at 4 p.m.**, in the Visitor Information Center, first floor, Building 45 on the NIH campus.

*Celebrating America's Women Physicians.* The exhibit features female pioneers of medicine in the United States, as well as women whose careers in medical research or practice are still making a difference today.

Often education is enjoyable here at NIH. Last July and August, the *NIH Science in the Cinema* film and discussion series combined movies with expert commentary on medical topics. These presentations are completely free and open to you, and NIH experts lead all the discussions. Perhaps the ultimate combination of enjoyment and education is the annual *Share the Health: NIH's Premier Health and Fitness Expo*, which attracts thousands. Every year, this free event includes something for everyone, kids most of all. But the underlying messages are serious, and the intent is to increase the well-being and improve the health of our neighbors.

Earlier this fall, the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences announced its 2005–2006 Chamber Music Series schedule (see the October *OCL Update*). These concerts feature world-class artists at very attractive rates. They are held at the Landon School's Mondzac Performing Arts Center in Bethesda. Closer to home, the Manchester Quartet will again present its Monday afternoon concert series. These events are held in Masur Auditorium in the NIH Clinical Center starting at 12:30 p.m. on selected Mondays. And as the holidays near, the NIH Community Orchestra will again sponsor the Messiah Singalong, this year on December 4th.

This column would be incomplete if I did not mention the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association, soon to begin its 60th year of operations. This association offers NIH employees, patients and visitors a wide range of services and facilities. You can get a haircut, buy flowers and gifts, work out and purchase discount tickets to a wide range of recreational, sports and entertainment events.

I have only scratched the surface here, but you can see that the NIH has much to offer. The communities surrounding the NIH give us a great place to live and work, and we strive always to include you as partners in our endeavors. Come to the NIH campus and enjoy the benefits of living nearby. They are bountiful.

## NIH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

### 2005 NIH Director's Pioneer Award Recipients Announced

NIH Director Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D., has named the 13 recipients of the 2005 Director's Pioneer Award. This prestigious new award, inaugurated in 2004 as a key part of the NIH Roadmap for Medical Research, supports the research of exceptionally creative scientists who take innovative approaches to the major challenges of biomedical research. The award brings with it \$500,000 in direct costs each year for five years, thus allowing its recipients the intellectual freedom to pursue novel—but sometimes risky—and potentially groundbreaking research directions. If successful, the recipients' research could have significant impact on the detection, treatment or prevention of disease.

The 2005 awardees are:



Vicki L. Chandler, Ph.D.

Vicki L. Chandler, Ph.D., Regents' Professor of Plant Sciences and Molecular and Cellular Biology and director, BIO5, University of Arizona, Tucson. Chandler will use her award to translate to humans her groundbreaking work in the control of gene expression in plant models.



Hollis T. Cline, Ph.D.

Hollis T. Cline, Ph.D., professor and director of research, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York. Cline will use her award to launch a large-scale project to understand the architecture, development and plasticity of brain circuits.



Leda Cosmides, Ph.D.

Leda Cosmides, Ph.D., professor of psychology and co-director, Center for Evolutionary Psychology, University of California, Santa Barbara. Cosmides will use her award to develop evolutionary and computational approaches to the study of motivation and developmental neuroscience.

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Erich D. Jarvis, Ph.D.

Erich D. Jarvis, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Neurobiology, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina. Jarvis will use his award to test a hypothesis about the genetic machinery that underlies vocal learning, which could lead to a way to repair vocalization disorders in humans.

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Titia de Lange, Ph.D.

Titia de Lange, Ph.D., Leon Hess Professor and head, Laboratory of Cell Biology and Genetics, Rockefeller University, New York City. De Lange intends to use her award to develop a system for studying the biological response to DNA damage.

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Thomas A. Rando, M.D., Ph.D.

Thomas A. Rando, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Neurology and Neurological Sciences, Stanford University School of Medicine, California. Rando intends to apply knowledge of adult stem cell biology to enhance tissue repair and regeneration due to aging, injury or disease.

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Karl Deisseroth, M.D., Ph.D.

Karl Deisseroth, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor, Departments of Bioengineering and Psychiatry, Stanford University School of Medicine, California. Deisseroth will launch a large-scale, systematic mapping of key neural circuit dynamics on the millisecond timescale in an effort to determine whether impairments in high-speed

circuit dynamics are the source of severe psychiatric symptoms like anxiety and hopelessness.

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Derek J. Smith, Ph.D.

Derek J. Smith, Ph.D., research associate, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, England. Smith will seek to further the understanding of pathogen evolution in order to advance our options for controlling rapidly evolving pathogens.

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Pehr A.B. Harbury, Ph.D.

Pehr A.B. Harbury, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford University School of Medicine, California. Harbury plans to develop an approach called *DNA Display* as a means of engineering drugs significantly more quickly and cheaply than is currently possible.

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Giulio Tononi, M.D., Ph.D.

Giulio Tononi, M.D., Ph.D., professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School. Tononi will test the hypothesis that sleep is necessary to maintain the strength of brain synapses at an energetically sustainable level. This research is important for the prevention and treatment of sleep disorders.

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(continued on page 4)



Clare M. Waterman-Storer, Ph.D.

Clare M. Waterman-Storer, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Cell Biology, Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, California. Waterman-Storer will apply imaging techniques and analytical methods that she has developed to correlate the interactions of multiple cellular components with biophysical outputs involved in cellular movement.



Nathan D. Wolfe, D.Sc.

Nathan D. Wolfe, D.Sc., assistant professor, Departments of Epidemiology and Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland. Combining the methods of molecular virology, ecology, evolutionary biology and anthropology, Wolfe will work

to establish a sentinel surveillance system to monitor the entry of novel viruses into the human species.



Junying Yuan, Ph.D.

Junying Yuan, Ph.D., professor, Department of Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts. Yuan plans to explore the possible existence of a novel cellular mechanism that specifically detects and removes misfolded, neurotoxic proteins. This work could lead to

advances in the prevention and treatment of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Huntington's.

"The scientists we recognize with Pioneer Awards have far-ranging ideas that hold the potential to make truly extraordinary contributions to many fields of medical research," Zerhouni said. "The recipients reflect the talent and diversity of the impressive group of scientists who competed for

the award. The strength of this group, and the willingness of a number of NIH components to contribute funds to the program, led us to make nearly twice as many awards as we originally planned. This speaks volumes about the exciting opportunities that lie ahead, and we look forward to seeing where the visionary concepts of our Pioneer Awardees lead."

## NIH Grantees Share Nobel Prize in Chemistry

This fall, NIH officials announced that two longtime NIH grantees, Robert H. Grubbs, Ph.D., and Richard R. Schrock, Ph.D., along with Yves Chauvin, Ph.D., have won the 2005 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. The researchers are honored for developing metal-containing molecules that are now used daily in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries to make important compounds.

NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) has supported their research with nearly \$12 million since 1983, spanning the period of their award-winning work and its publication. NIGMS also helped support their training before they launched their independent research careers.

"New pathways to discovery often depend upon new technologies," said NIH Director Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D., in a press statement about the prize announcement. "These Nobel Laureates developed a technique to control metathesis, a chemical reaction that makes it possible for two chemical entities to switch places, and create completely novel molecules. Because of their work, metathesis has become one of organic chemistry's most important reactions and is used to create new materials and pharmaceuticals in an effective, efficient and environmentally friendly way," Zerhouni added.

Both scientists worked independently to develop molecules, called catalysts, which facilitate



Robert H. Grubbs, Ph.D.



Richard R. Schrock, Ph.D.

Credit: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Credit: California Institute of Technology

metathesis. In 1990, Schrock was the first to produce an efficient metal-compound catalyst for metathesis. Grubbs developed an even better catalyst, stable in air, in 1992. It has found many applications. Thanks to these contributions, chemists are better able to harness metathesis to make materials ranging from medicines to bulletproof vests. Their work has made this process simpler, safer for the environment and more efficient.

“By probing the mechanism of the intriguing but poorly understood process of metathesis, Grubbs and Schrock synthesized new catalysts that made this process tremendously useful,” said Jeremy M. Berg, Ph.D., director of NIGMS. “These catalysts have greatly aided the process of drug discovery and have had enormous impact on the development of advanced materials.”

Since 1954, NIH has supported the work of 36 Nobel Laureates in chemistry.

### **NCI Offers Free Monthly Teleconferences on Cancer Research Issues**

The National Cancer Institute’s (NCI) Office of Liaison Activities (OLA) is now offering a monthly teleconference series that examines key issues in cancer research. The series, which is open to the public, encourages members of cancer advocacy organizations, cancer survivors, families and friends to learn more about NCI’s cancer research programs and how advocates are involved. Each month a new topic is featured, and callers have the opportunity to ask questions of the speakers.

“Clinical Trials at NCI: The New Clinical Research Center at NIH—Patients Are Our Partners and Our Heroes” is December’s call topic. John I. Gallin, M.D., director of the NIH Clinical Center, is the featured speaker. This call is scheduled for 1 p.m. (EST) on Friday, December 16. To participate, simply call 1-800-857-6584 and enter the passcode 4683#. No registration is necessary, and participation is free. A complete playback of the call is also available until January 16, 2006 at 11:30 p.m. (EST) at 1-800-216-4418. For more information, call NCI’s OLA at 301-594-3194 or visit <http://la.cancer.gov/teleconference.html>.

### **Childhood Exposure to Second-Hand Smoke Has Lifelong Effects**

A new study has found that exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke in early life can produce lifelong respiratory problems. The study included 35,000 adult nonsmokers in Singapore and is the largest study to date on the effects of childhood exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.

This investigation was completed by researchers at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), the University of Minnesota and the National University of Singapore. They found that individuals 18 or younger who lived with one or more smokers were more than twice as likely to suffer from chronic dry cough as adults.

“This research adds to a growing body of evidence that exposure to second-hand smoke early in life has health consequences that can last a lifetime,” said NIEHS Director David Schwartz, M.D. “In addition to finding ways to reduce the exposure of children to tobacco smoke and other environmental pollutants, we also need to look for ways to reduce the disease burden.”

Interestingly, the study might also have found at least one way to do just that. NIEHS researcher Stephanie London, M.D., explained: “Because we had previously found in this Singaporean population data suggesting that a diet high in fruit and soy fiber may reduce the incidence of chronic respiratory symptoms, we decided to study the impact of fiber on problems associated with early tobacco exposure. We actually found that people who ate even a small amount of fruit fiber had less chronic cough.”

Study participants who ate more than 7.5 grams of fiber each day (equivalent to about two apples) had fewer health effects associated with tobacco smoke. “Fiber may have beneficial effects on the lung,” London said. However, she cautioned, “the possible benefits of fiber should not lessen the importance of reducing exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.”

### **NINDS Javits Award Goes to Six Inventive Neuroscientists**

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) at NIH has awarded its prestigious Senator Jacob Javits Award in the

*(continued on page 6)*

Neurosciences to six innovative neuroscientists. The award is made to investigators who have demonstrated exceptional scientific excellence and productivity in NINDS-supported research, and it supports their continued innovative work.

The Javits Award was authorized by Congress in 1983 and honors the late



Jacob K. Javits

U.S. Senator Jacob K. Javits (R-NY), who suffered from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, the neurodegenerative disease known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Senator Javits was a strong advocate for research on neurological disorders.

According to NINDS Director Story Landis, Ph.D., "the Javits Award gives highly productive scientists, whose work is on the cutting edge in their field, an even greater opportunity to understand the interplay involved in the cause and, hopefully, treatment or even prevention of neurological diseases." The Javits Award guarantees funding for four years, with another three years possible.

Recipients of the 2005 awards are:

- Paul Brehm, Ph.D., professor, Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, State University of New York at Stony Brook;
- Michael D. Cahalan, Ph.D., professor, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, University of California, Irvine;
- Liqun Luo, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Stanford University;
- Joshua R. Sanes, Ph.D., professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University;
- Ronald L. Schnaar, Ph.D., professor, Departments of Pharmacology and Neuroscience, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and
- Stephen M. Strittmatter, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor, Departments of Neurology and Neurobiology, Yale Medical School.

## NIAID and MedImmune Join Forces to Develop Possible Pandemic Influenza Vaccines

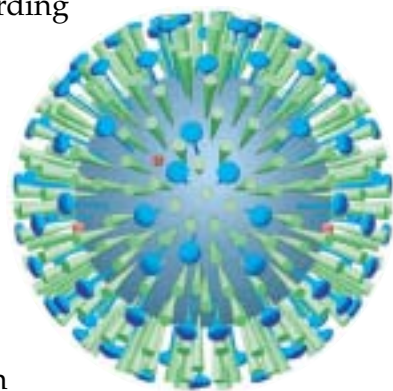
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt has announced a cooperative research and development agreement to develop vaccines against avian influenza viruses that could cause human pandemics. Under this agreement, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) will join MedImmune, Inc., to develop at least one vaccine for each of the known avian flu virus variants. "The threat of pandemic flu is an urgent health challenge," Leavitt said. "This agreement will help speed the process of developing the vaccines we need to fight an outbreak if the avian flu starts to spread rapidly through the human population."

Infectious disease experts are concerned that avian influenza viruses could trigger a devastating global flu outbreak. Until recently, such viruses have only rarely affected people. Since late 2003, however, the H5N1 avian influenza strain has spread rapidly among birds and other animals in Asia and most recently has been found in Russia and Kazakhstan. According to World Health

Organization data, of the 115 people who have been infected with H5N1 from late 2003 through 2005, 59 have died. All who have been infected so far came into direct contact with

infected animals. The fear, however, is that if the virus mutates so that it can efficiently spread from one person directly to another, it could cause an influenza pandemic.

Kanta Subbarao, M.D., M.P.H., and Brian Murphy, M.D., of NIAID's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, will lead the NIAID part of this collaboration. Using the very latest genetic techniques and classical methods, the NIAID/MedImmune consortium will build on the research pioneered by Murphy and his colleagues. They created a flu vaccine based on a live virus that had been weakened so that it could no longer cause disease. As an extra measure of safety, the consortium will use a proprietary technique



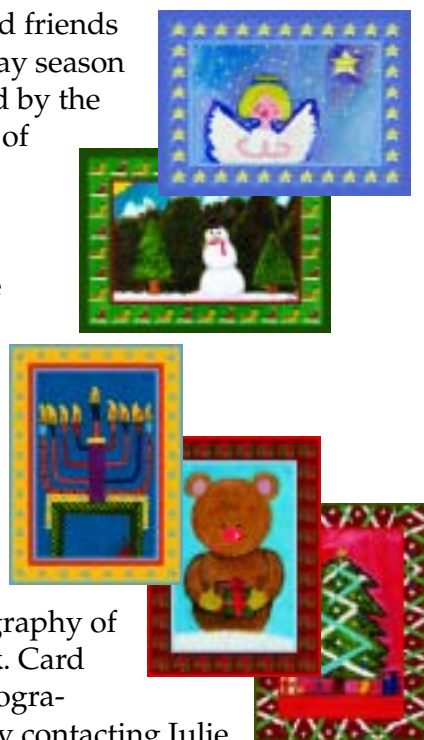
developed by MedImmune wherein the virus becomes “cold-adapted” by growing in progressively cooler environments. Such a virus cannot function outside the relatively cool upper respiratory tract. According to Subbarao, it could take years to develop vaccines for all the avian flu virus varieties. “Having effective vaccines against all subtypes will help us prepare for the influenza pandemics in the future,” she explained.

Much of the vaccine development work will take place in NIAID’s laboratories on the NIH campus in Bethesda. After initial laboratory studies, MedImmune will manufacture the vaccines for human clinical trials to assess vaccine safety and immunogenicity. Before use in the general population, all vaccines must be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

“Our agreement with MedImmune coordinates public and private resources and brings a deeper pool of talent to bear on the urgent need for vaccines to combat the threat of an influenza pandemic,” explained NIAID Director Anthony S. Fauci, M.D. “It is an example of the many productive public-private partnerships upon which we depend in our quest to develop vaccines, drugs and diagnostics for myriad infectious disease threats.”

## Holiday Cards Benefit the Children’s Inn at NIH

Wish your family and friends the joys of this holiday season with cards illustrated by the remarkable children of the Children’s Inn at NIH. By purchasing these cards, you are helping to enrich the lives of seriously ill children and their families who are seeking treatment at NIH. Several types of card designs are available, and each includes a short biography of the artist on the back. Card designs and artist biographies are available by contacting Julie



Hykes at the Children’s Inn, 301-451-2878, or by visiting the Inn’s Web site at <http://www.childrensinn.org>. Select any one of the five designs or mix and match batches of 25. All cards contain a note that says a donation has been made to the Inn and can be personalized with your family or company name. Cards cost \$50 per box of 25, half of which is tax deductible. Hurry and place your order now. Orders must be made by December 8 to be received in time for the holidays. The Children’s Inn is a private, non-profit, family-centered residence for pediatric patients at NIH. For more information, call 301-451-2878 or visit the Web site listed above.

## NIH Musicians Hold Holiday Concerts

NIH may be well known for its biomedical research, but few know about its musically talented employees. Many of NIH’s researchers, scientists and administrators are also musicians who perform in the NIH Orchestra or the NIH Philharmonia.



The NIH Philharmonia warming up

This month, area residents can hear these fine musicians perform classical masterpieces and help raise money for NIH charities.

On Saturday, December 3, the NIH Philharmonia is performing “Kings and Triumphs,” free, at 7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Rockville, Maryland. The NIH Philharmonia, formerly known as the NIH Chamber Orchestra, is an all-volunteer ensemble, established to bring together the musical talent of NIH researchers, federal workers and the surrounding community. The program includes music from Weber, Mozart and Beethoven. The church is located at 917 Montrose Road. For more information or upcoming concerts, visit <http://www.nihphil.org>.

On Sunday, December 4, the NIH Community Orchestra and the Bethesda Little Theater invite the community to join in an NIH holiday tradition—the “Messiah Sing-Along.” The ninth annual holiday show, which features a variety of music from Handel’s *Messiah*, takes place at 3 p.m. in the Figge Theater at Georgetown Preparatory School located

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

at 10900 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda, Maryland. All members of the community are welcome to participate, and sing-along music is available as a free download from the orchestra's Web site at <http://www.nihco.org>. The suggested donation is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors and free for children under 12. Proceeds from the performance benefit NIH charities. The NIH Community Orchestra, composed of NIH employees and community members, was started to give Bethesda area musicians an opportunity to learn and perform some of the best ensemble and orchestral repertoire from the Renaissance period. For more information, call 301-442-4812 or visit the Web site listed above.

## NIH CALENDAR OF EVENTS\*

### November 30 .....

#### NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:

*Remodeling Proteins and the Proteome by AAA+ ATPase Machines* by Tania A. Baker, Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit is available. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

### December 1 .....

#### NIH Work/Life Center Faces & Phases of Life Seminar

**Series:** *Single Parenthood*, noon–1:00 p.m., Room C, Neuroscience Center, 6001 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. To register or for more information, call 301-435-1619 or visit <http://wlc.od.nih.gov/faces.asp>.

### December 2 .....

NIH Clinical Center Department of Laboratory Medicine's 33rd Annual Holiday Auction, features a bake sale and silent auction with proceeds benefiting the Patient Emergency Fund, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Room 2C310, Building 10, NIH campus, Bethesda. Volunteers and donations are welcome.

### December 5 .....

#### 2005–2006 NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: Retinal Stem

*Cells, Progenitors and Regeneration: A Bird's Eye View* by Thomas Reh, Ph.D., University of Washington, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit will be offered. For more information, call Peggy Rollins at 301-435-2232 or visit <http://neuroseries.info.nih.gov>.

### December 7 .....

#### NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:

*T Cells and MHC* by Philippa Marrack, Ph.D., National Jewish Medical and Research Center and Howard Hughes Medical Institute, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, Bethesda, free and open to the public. CME credit will be offered. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

### December 8 .....

#### NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Lecture

**Series:** *Everyday Magical Powers: Illusions in the Experience of Conscious Will* by Daniel M. Wegner, Ph.D., Harvard University, 3–4 p.m., Room C, Neuroscience Center, 6001 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, free and open to the public. For more information, call Ronald Abeles at 301-496-7859 or visit <http://obssr.od.nih.gov/BSSRCC/BSSRLecturesFall05.htm>.

### December 9 .....

#### NIH Director's Seminar Series: Evasion of Innate Host

*Defense by Bacterial Pathogens* by Frank DeLeo, Ph.D., National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, noon–1 p.m., Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH campus, free and open to the public. For more information, call Colleen Crone at 301-496-1921.

#### NIH Clinical Center Director's Annual Address and

**Awards Ceremony:** 1–3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus. Call Wendy Schubert for more information at 301-594-5792.

### December 11 .....

#### FAES Music Series: Steven Osborne, piano, 4 p.m., Landon

School Mondzac Performing Arts Center, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda. Tickets are \$22 and \$10 for students or fellows. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 301-496-7976 or visit <http://www.faes.org/music.htm>.

### December 12 .....

#### 2005–2006 NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: High

*Resolution Imaging of the Retina In Vivo with Adaptive Optics* by David Williams, Ph.D., University of Rochester, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit will be offered. For more information, call Peggy Rollins at 301-435-2232 or visit <http://neuroseries.info.nih.gov>.

### December 13 .....

#### NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:

**Special Tuesday Lecture:** *Beyond the Double Helix: Reading and Writing the "Histone Code"* by C. David Allis, Ph.D., The Rockefeller University, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit will be offered. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

## December 14 .....

### NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:

*Neurodegeneration: Too Much of a Bad Thing Kills You* by John Hardy, Ph.D., National Institute on Aging, NIH, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit will be offered. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

### NIH Work/Life Center Faces & Phases of Life Seminar

**Series:** *What It's Like to Work with Me: Generational Diversity in Office and Team Environments*, noon–1:30 p.m., Room 6C10, Building 31, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. To register or for more information, call 301-435-1619 or visit <http://wlc.od.nih.gov/faces.asp>.

## December 19 .....

### 2005–2006 NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: *Sensory*

*Transduction in Inner Hair Cells: What A Long, Strange TRP It's Been* by David Corey, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit will be offered. For more information, call Peggy Rollins at 301-435-2232 or visit <http://neuroseries.info.nih.gov>.

*\*Calendar items subject to change. Call to confirm your event.*

## TRY THIS WEB SITE

<http://clinicalcenter.nih.gov/participate/healthyvolunteers.shtml>

Have you ever thought of participation in medical research? Do you have questions but have no idea where to turn for answers? The NIH Clinical Center's *Participating in NIH Research* newsletter Web site just might have what you need. Here you will find a wealth of information about how to volunteer and why. The newsletter gives an overview of a handful of current studies that seek healthy volunteers and provides links to literally hundreds more. The home page greets visitors with a challenging question: "Are you ready to save the world again?" Each issue also includes seasonally pertinent information on a specific disease and its treatment or prevention, a profile of a research physician and information on a medical technique.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Malaria Vaccine Study

NIH investigators are studying the safety of a malaria vaccine and its ability to generate immunity. Healthy men and non-pregnant women, aged 18 to 50, who have never been exposed to malaria are invited to volunteer. The research vaccine will not infect you with malaria, and all study-related tests and medicines are provided. Participants will be compensated. For more information or to volunteer, call 1-800-411-1116 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010; refer to study 05-I-0133.

### Jet Lag!

NIH researchers seek healthy adult travelers, aged 18 to 65, going east 6–8 time zones, to participate in a study of the effects of replacing the hormones disrupted by jet travel. Participants will take a study medication (hydrocortisone, melatonin or placebo), fill out questionnaires and give salivary samples. The study involves one screening visit with blood work and one follow-up visit. A travel stay of 4–10 days is required. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010; refer to study number 05-CH-0037.

### Ovarian Function Study

NIH researchers invite women aged 18 to 25 to participate in a study to learn more about ovarian function. The information derived will be used in developing a test that will enable physicians to uncover various types of ovarian dysfunction early in a woman's life. Study-related tests and treatments are provided at no cost, and participants will be compensated. For more information or to volunteer, call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010; refer to study 00-CH-0189.

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## Allergy and Asthma Study for Children

NIH researchers are looking for children between the ages of 6 months and 17 years to participate in a clinical study of allergies and asthma. All study-related tests and treatments are provided at no cost. Parental permission and child assent are required. For more information, parents can call 1-866-999-1116 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010; refer to study number 05-I-0084.

## Healthy Adult Volunteers Needed

The NIH seeks healthy volunteers aged 20 to 50 to participate in a clinical study of mood and anxiety disorders. All study-related tests and medicines are provided, and participants will be compensated. For more information or to participate, visit <http://clinicalcenter.nih.gov> or call 240-353-7238 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010; refer to study 04-M-0270.



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*If you would like to list an upcoming event of interest to  
the local community, call Terry LaMotte at Palladian  
Partners, OCL support contractor, at 301-650-8660, or  
send her an e-mail at [tlamotte@palladianpartners.com](mailto:tlamotte@palladianpartners.com).*